

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Oct. 17, 2013

CONTACT: Marcheta Strunk, Glendale Public Information Office, 623-930-2822
Robin Lea-Amos, Leadership West Member, 623-377-1903
Christian M. Williams, Leadership West Member, ceemoaz+wildflower@gmail.com

LEADERSHIP WEST CLASS TO SEED WILDFLOWERS AT THUNDERBIRD CONSERVATION PARK

Glendale, Ariz. — As part of its community project requirement, members of the 19th graduating class of Leadership West are planning a wildflower seeding and native vegetation planting at the Thunderbird Conservation Park on Saturday, Nov. 2.

The event falls under Glendale's Partners 'N Parks program, where community members give back to the entire community through volunteer projects at the parks. The project team leaders have been working closely with Glendale's parks and recreation staff to determine the best location and plants for the park.

Each graduation class of Leadership West is divided into several groups with each group developing a community project idea. Five projects were presented in the graduating class. They are judged with the winner receiving \$1,000 to help fund the project. The wildflower project, developed and coordinated by Leadership West members Robin Lea-Amos, Christian M. Williams and Roger Theis, was this year's winner.

In 2005, Thunderbird Conservation Park was victim to a wildfire, south of the Pinnacle Peak parking lot, where most of the vegetation was destroyed.

"It is the Leadership West class's goal to help rejuvenate the area that suffered from the wildfire and help bring back the plants and flowers that were once prevalent in the area," said Robin Lea-Amos.

As a public volunteer program, additional volunteers are welcome to participate. Volunteers should bring sunscreen, wear a hat and closed-toed shoes. They may also want to bring work gloves.

– MORE –

WILDFLOWER PROJECT

Add 1-1-1-1

Volunteers will hand distribute 100 pounds of wildflower seeds and plant 39 trees for the project, with 15 of the trees donated by Paradise Wholesale Nursery. Additional donations have come from the Leadership West Project of the Year Award, the Nick Reed family, Glendale Councilmember Manny Martinez and Salt River Project's Trees for Change program.

Volunteers and others participating in the project should arrive between 7:30 and 8 a.m. A welcoming announcement will begin at 8 a.m. with volunteer assignments beginning at 8:20 a.m. The planting and seeding will begin at 8:30 a.m. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

Parking for the event will be at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 5104 W. Pinnacle Peak Rd., across the street from the park's north side.

Leadership West cultivates leadership capital for the West Valley and prepares those leaders to affect positive change in Arizona. Its diverse membership believes that intelligent, active engagement in public affairs is the true measure of citizenship and the foundation for our community. For more information on Leadership West, visit <http://leadershipwest.org>.

The Partners 'N Parks program is designed to protect and enhance the City of Glendale parks and open spaces through ongoing volunteer support, in-kind contributions, corporate sponsorships and private donations. The primary purpose is to educate residents about the benefits of parks and open spaces. For more information on the Partners 'N Parks program, call 623-930-4203.

###